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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the structure of America is founded upon faith in God and is a practical express of religion and only insofar as America is spiritually strong will she be able to defend the political ideals for which the founders of our Republic pledged their lives; and

WHEREAS, each passing day makes more evident the fact that the destiny of all men and nations is to a large measure dependent upon the action of these United States of America; and

WHEREAS, religious teaching of tomorrow's citizens is also a basic factor in the education of free men, and religious faith and practice are essential elements of responsible citizenship in a democracy; and

WHEREAS, outstanding men in business, religious and educational affairs have organized a non-sectarian effort throughout the nation to promote church attendance and Bible reading; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln said in regards to the Bible, "I have but to say, it is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Saviour gave to the world was communicated through this book. But for it we could not know right from wrong. All things most desirable for man's welfare, here and hereafter, are to be found portrayed in it."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sigurd Andersen, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of October 18-25, 1954, as

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

in South Dakota and do urge the citizens of South Dakota to read and study the Bible daily and to secure from its pages the many worthwhile lessons awaiting us. I further urge the citizens of this state to attend the Church, Sunday School or Synagogue of their choice, and to help promote a better understanding among all people of this nation and the entire world.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota to be affixed this 16th day of October, 1954.

..... Sigurd Andersen
Governor

ATTEST:

..... Geraldine Oustree
Secretary of State